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AGRICULTURE.

(From the American Almanac.)

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL ECONOMY.

By THOMAS G. FESSENDEN, Editor of the N. E. Farmer.

In the preceding volume, under the above head, the objects of tillage, and some recent improvements in Agriculture were adverted to and described, and a continuation of notices relating to modern husbandry was promised. We now proceed ta redeem our pledge, by stating some of those inventions, discoveries, and practical applications of science to the most useful of the arts, which give modern cultivators very great advantages over those who preceded them.

In our last we made some observations on increasing the products of agriculture by the selection of the best seeds from which to obtain our crops. This branch of improved tillage is of more importance than is generally imagined. We will now state the principal causes of defective seeds, and the methods by which the best may be procured.

The principal causes of poor seeds are to be found in their not being properly situated in growing, and not being well ripened. Different varieties of the same species impart to each other their respective qualities. If the genuine rutabaga is set to grow for seed near the common turnip, or turnip cabbage, the seeds of the former will have in part the peculiarities of the latter, and *vice versa*. "To generate the best kinds of seeds the most healthy plants should be chosen, and those which are most early in the season. These should be so placed as to have no weak plants of the same species or even genus in their vicinity, lest the fecundating dust of weaker plants should be blown by winds upon the stigmata of the stronger, and thus produce a less vigorous progeny."*

It is best to let all seeds, intended to propagate from, remain on the parent stock till fully ripe. For instance, wheat intended for seed should stand in the field till entirely ripe, and the kernel perfectly hard and dry; but that which is meant for other uses should be cut before it is *dead ripe*, as some phrase it, and while the joints of the straw have still a greenish appearance. So in seed corn, that which ripens earliest should be preferred; but Dr Deane advised to mark such ears, and then let them stand on their stalks till they had become sapless. Seeds will grow, if gathered green, and afterwards dried in the sun, but they will not produce so good plants as if they had been fairly ripened.

2. To guard as far as possible against defective seeds, it is recommended *to select the heaviest and largest for sowing and planting*. The way to try seeds is this: Put a small quantity of them in luke-warm water, and let the water be four or five inches deep. A mug or basin will do, but a large glass tumbler is best; for then you can see the bottom as well as the top. Some seeds, such as those of cabbage, radish, and turnip, will, if good, go to the bottom at once. Cucumber, lettuce, endive, and many others require a few minutes. Parsnip and carrot, and all the *winged* seeds require to be well *wetted* before you put them into the glass; and the carrot should be rubbed, so as to get off part of the hairs, which would otherwise act as the feathers do on a duck. The seeds of beets and mangel wurtzel are in a case or shell. The rough things that we sow are not the seeds, but the cases in which the seeds are contained, each case containing from one to five seeds.—Therefore, the trial by water is not, as regards these two kinds of seeds, conclusive, though if the seed be very good it will sink in water after being in the glass an hour. And, as it is a matter of great importance that every seed should grow in a case where the plants stand so far apart, since gaps in rows of beets and mangel-wurtzel are so very injurious, the best way is to reject all seeds that will not sink, case and all, after being put in warm water, and remaining there an hour.

But seeds of all sorts are sometimes, if not always, part sound and part unsound, and as the former is not to be rejected on account of the latter, the proportion of each should be ascertained, if the separation be not made. Count then an hundred seeds, taken promiscuously, and put them into water as before directed. If fifty sink and fifty swim, half of your seeds are bad, and half good; and so in proportion to other numbers of sinkers and swimmers. There may be plants, the sound seeds of which will not sink, but I know of none. If to be found in any instance, they would, I think, be found in those of the tulip tree, the ash, the birch, and the parsnip, all of which are furnished with so large a portion of wing.—Yet all of these, if *sound*, will sink, if put into *warm* water with the wet worked a little into the wings first. I incline to the opinion that we should try seeds as our ancestors tried witches; not by fire, but by water; and that by following up their practice we should reprobate and destroy all that do not *readily* sink.*

Seeds should be preserved in a dry and temperate place, and the air should not be excluded. Miller says, "the seeds of cucumbers, melons, and gourds, which have thick, horny coverings, and the oil of their seed being of a cold nature, continue good eight or ten years; and radish, turnip, rape, &c., with other oily seeds, (whose coats are not so hard and close as the others,) yet abounding with oil which is of a warmer nature, the seeds will keep good three or four years; whereas the seeds of parsley, carrots, parsnip, and most umbelliferous plants, whose seeds are for the most part of a warm nature, and have little oil in them, lose their growing faculty, often in one year, but seldom remain good longer than two years. The seeds of cucumbers, melons, and pumpkins improve by being kept till they are three or four years old. When kept that time on hand, they produce more and earlier fruit, and less vine. If seeds of that age, however, cannot be obtained, they should be well washed to cleanse them from mucilage, and thoroughly dried before planting."

Wheat, we are told, is improved for seed, by being kept on hand a year, and will then produce a crop without smut, and will not be injured by the fly. Judge Buel, a celebrated agriculturist, residing near Albany, observes, "I am almost a proselyte to the opinion that the nit is deposited in the down of the kernel before the grain is harvested, and that the same warmth which causes the seed to vegetate in the earth hatches the insect there also. I am inclined to favor the hypothesis, and not without evidence, that the seed of both the smut and the fly lose their reproductive power during the lapse of a twelve-month. I will not venture to say that liming seed is as efficacious against the fly, as it is against smut; but thus much I can say, that I always lime my seed wheat, and never have it injured by smut or fly, while many fields in my neighborhood are annually devastated by the one, or materially injured by the other."

The Use of Lime as a Manure for Wheat.—The application of lime to wheat culture is one of the most important improvements in modern husbandry. It is well known that our lands, where the soil is fit for any kind of arable products, will yield good crops of wheat, when first cleared of their native growth of wood; but, after having been tilled some years, they generally produce wheat with difficulty, and it is often found impossible to obtain it by any of the common modes of culture. In most parts of Massachusetts, and in some parts of New Hampshire and Vermont, the farmers for a long period scarcely ever attempted to raise wheat, and still more rarely succeeded when they did attempt it. Yet wheat was a common and profitable crop in those places in the earliest periods of their settlement. In process of time, however, the land became incapable of producing that precious product, and our farmers were compelled to forego its culture, till quite recently it has been successfully cultivated by means of manuring with lime.

Similar variations and appearances have likewise been observed in Europe. Wheat countries by continued tillage have become almost incapable of yielding wheat. The cause and remedy of this partial barrenness, this incapacity in the soil to produce plants, which it had once brought forth in abundance, were alike involved in obscurity, till modern discoveries in chemistry threw light on the subject. It has been found that the texture of every soil is deficient, unless it contains a mixture of three kinds of earth, viz. clay, sand, and *lime*; and that lime in some of its combinations exists in wheat both in the straw and in the kernel. In some soils, fertile in other respects, lime may either have no existence, or be found in

*Darwin's "Phytologia."

*Cobbett's "American Gardener."

very minute portions, and be soon exhausted. If lime be a constituent of wheat, and is not in the soil where we attempt to raise that crop, we must furnish lime by art, or wheat will not grow. Or if native lime exists in the soil in small quantities, the land may bear wheat till the lime is exhausted, and then become incapable of producing that plant till a fresh supply of lime, marl, pulverized bones, or some other calcareous substance is added.

Mr Young, of Nova Scotia, an able English writer on agricultural topics, says, "It cannot be denied, that since the plentiful use of lime has been adopted, lands in Europe will produce wheat which otherwise were incapable of bearing it; and he quotes several instances in favor of this assertion. Dr Anderson likewise gives an account of a field which had a top-dressing of lime for the purpose of raising wheat; but the lime by accident, was not applied to a small patch of the field, and in that patch there was no crop, while every part to which lime was applied produced wheat luxuriantly. It would be easy to adduce many more instances to show that lime, in Great Britain, is considered not only useful but indispensable to the production of wheat.

A consideration of these premises has induced some persons to suppose, that, by the judicious use of lime or other calcareous substances, such as marl or plaster of Paris, wheat may be as well raised in New England as in the Western States. The subject is certainly of great importance, and we are glad to learn that the raising of wheat has been recently revived with good success in some parts of the valley of the Connecticut river.

Another important improvement in the practice of modern husbandry consists in the manner of ploughing sward land, or land grown over to grass. This grass, including the matted turf or sod made by the interwoven texture of its roots, is capable of furnishing much valuable food for plants, provided it is buried in the soil, *and not disturbed till it is rotted or decomposed.* Yet the mode of tilling such land has been to cross-plough and harrow the surface which has been *broken up*, as the phrase is, with a view to arable crops, in such a manner that the vegetable matter contained in the sod should be turned out and wasted above ground, by heat, air, and moisture, instead of being treasured in the soil to supply the wants of vegetation. In this way our cultivators in former times had taken great pains to impoverish themselves, and their misdirected industry, worse than useless, has been positively detrimental. A more rational and scientific mode of management is now beginning to be prevalent, which is well described in the following extract from an "Address delivered before the Middlesex Society of Husbandmen and Manufacturers, by Elias Phinney, Esq."

"In May, the field having lain three years to grass, and the crop of hay so light as to be worth not more than the expense of making, with a view of ascertaining the quantity of vegetable matter upon the surface, I took a single foot square of greensward, and after separating the roots and tops of the grasses from the loam and vegetable mould, it was found on weighing to contain nine ounces of clear vegetable substance, giving at that rate, over twelve and a quarter tons to the acre. This convinced me of the importance of taking some course by which this valuable treasure might be turned to good account. That a great part of this mass of vegetable matter is exposed to useless waste by the usual mode of ploughing, cross-ploughing, and harrowing, must be obvious to any one. In order, therefore, to secure this, as well as the light vegetable mould at or near the surface, which is liable to waste from the same causes, I had two acres of the greensward of this field turned over with the plough as smoothly as possible. After removing the outside slices into the centre of the plough-land, and thereby effecting the double purpose of covering the vacant space in the middle, and preventing ridges at the sides and ends, the field was rolled hard, with a loaded roller, by which the uneven parts of the furrow were pressed down, and the whole made smooth. It was then harrowed lengthwise of the furrows, with a horse harrow, but so lightly as not to disturb the sod. Twenty cart-loads of compost manure, made by mixing two parts of loam or peat mud with one of stable-dung, were then spread upon each acre. It was then harrowed again, as before, and the poorer part of the soil which had been turned up and remained on the surface was thereby mixed with the compost manure. Corn was then planted in drills upon the furrow, the rows being at the usual distance and parallel with the furrows. At hoeing time the surface was stirred by running a light plough between the rows, but not so deep at this or the subsequent hoeing as to disturb the sod. What Mr Lorrain calls the 'savage practice' of hilling up the corn was cautiously avoided. As the season advanced, I carefully watched the progress of my corn-field. In the early part of the season it did not exhibit a very promising appearance; but as soon as the roots had extended into the enriching matter beneath, and began to expand in the decomposing sward, which had now become mellow, and more minutely divided by the fermentation of the confined vegetable substances beneath than it possibly could have been by plough or hoe, the growth became vigorous, and the crop, in the opinion of those who examined the field, not less than seventy bushels of corn to the acre. As soon as the corn was harvested, the stubble was loosened up by running a light horse-plough lengthwise through the rows, the surface then smoothed with a bush-harrow, and one bushel of rye, with a sufficient quantity of herd's grass and red-top seed, to the acre, was then sowed, the ground again harrowed and rolled. The crop of rye was harvested in July following, and the two acres yielded sixty nine and a half bushels of excellent grain, and over five tons of straw. The grass sowed with the rye took well, and the present season I mowed, what those who secured the crop judged to be, two and a half tons of the very best of hay from each acre.

"Thus with one ploughing, with the aid of twenty cart-loads of compost manure to the acre, I have obtained two crops of grain, and stocked the land down to grass."

Another modern improvement in agriculture, which has proved of much importance, consists in an acquaintance with the theory and the successful practice of systematic Courses and Rotations of Crops. A Course of Crops is a series of products following each other in a determinate succession on the same ground for a certain number of years, after which the same round is renewed in the same order. A Rotation of Crops consists in two or more courses repeated in the same order.

M. Macaire, in a memoir inserted in the transactions of a Literary Society in Geneva, has developed some physiological facts relating to this subject, from which the following is a transcript.

"A judicious rotation of crops is known to be a matter of great importance. One kind of vegetable (a) will grow and flourish well in a soil from which another kind of vegetable (b) has just been gathered, while an attempt to raise another crop of the first vegetable (a) or a crop of a third vegetable (c) immediately after the first (a) in the same soil, will be attended with little or no success. * * *

"The true explanation of the necessity of a rotation of crops appears to be founded on the fact stated by Bergmann, and more fully exposed by Decandolle, that a certain portion of the juices which are absorbed by the roots of the plants, are, after the salutiferous portions have been extracted by the vessels of the plant, again thrown out by exudation from the roots and deposited in the soil. It is probably the existence of this exuded matter which may be regarded in some measure as the excrements of the preceding crop of vegetables, that proves injurious to a succeeding vegetation. The particles which have been deleterious to one tribe of plants, cannot but prove injurious to plants of the same kinds, and probably to those of some other kinds, while they may furnish nutriment to another order of vegetables."

The author proved this theory by experiments which we have not room to give in detail. In one of these, after cleansing and washing the roots of plants thoroughly, he placed them in phials with a certain quantity of pure water. After they had put forth leaves, expanded their flowers, and flourished for some time, by the evaporation of the water, and the use of chemical re-agents, he ascertained that the water contained matter which had exuded from the roots."*

Among the means of agricultural improvement of comparatively modern origin, few have proved more efficient and useful than Agricultural Societies, Exhibitions, or, as they are commonly called, Cattle Shows. At assemblages and collections of this kind, the farmer may obtain ocular demonstration of improvements, which he would hardly believe possible, from *hearsay* evidence, or any *printed* statements. He sees the finest breeds of cattle, both native and imported, and learns by what means he may improve his own breeds of domestic animals. He views specimens of different sorts of vegetables, some of which are not so generally cultivated as they might be, to the great advantage of the cultivator. Improved agricultural implements, by which the labors of the husbandman are at once rendered lighter and more efficient, are here soliciting notice. But it is useless to enlarge on the advantages which result from these institutions, which are now firmly founded on the basis of public opinion, tested by ample experience of their utility, and sanctioned by the approbation and usages of the most enlightened nations.

*See some valuable remarks on the subject of Rotation of Crops, by Anthony Cullamore, Esq., read before the Plymouth County Agricultural Society, and published in the "New England Farmer," vol. xiii, p 217 et seq.

COMPETITION.—It is cheap travelling between New Haven and New York at the present time. *Twentyfive* cents is all that is asked for a passage by some of the boats on the route!

FRUIT.

Why are some fruits improved in sweetness by drying or half withering on the trees?

Because their watery parts thus exhale, and the sugar is increased in quantity.

Why should grapes hang on the vine until they are perfectly ripe?

Because unripe bunches never get any riper after they are gathered.

Why should grapes be eaten soon after they are gathered?

Because, unlike other fruits, grapes do not improve in flavor after gathering.

Why should the crowns be removed from ripe pine apples?

Because, when suffered to remain, they live upon the fruit until they have sucked out all the goodness.

Why does an apple when first cut appear white, and after a time brownish?

Because a fermentation arises from the rest of the fruit absorbing the oxygen of the atmosphere; the apple having previously been, by its tough skin, protected from the contact of the air.—*Donovan.*

Why are certain apples called russetings?

Because of their russet or reddish brown color.

Why should raspberries be eaten from the bush?

Because their flavor is the most fleeting of all fruit. Even a few hours will diminish it, and on the bush the flavor does not continue above two or three days after the fruit is ripe. If kept for two or three days when first gathered, the flavor is almost entirely gone.

Why are chestnuts best preserved through winter in sand?

Because if there be any maggots in the chestnuts, they will come out and work up through the sand to get air.

Why is fern preferable to straw for the bed between the layers of fruit?

Because it does not impart that musty flavor which is so often produced by straw.

Why are the autumnal fruits as plums, pears, etc. more crude and indigestible than those of summer?

Because, in part, of the state of the constitution. Thus, at the commencement of summer the system is more nerved and braced by the atmosphere of winter and spring, and by the dryer food which necessity obliges us to take at those seasons, so that the cooling fruits of summer are wholesome for their opening the bowels, &c. But it is not wonderful that a continuance of watery and innutritious food, like fruit, should towards autumn, produce debility in constitutions partly predisposed to it, by the continual and relaxing heat of the summer months.—*Knowledge for the People.*

A New Variety of Pea.—The Charleston Courier states, that a quantity of a new species of pea has been imported from Cuba, by Dr B. B. Strobel, of that city, and placed in the publication office of the Southern Agriculturist, for gratuitous distribution, with a view of introducing their culture into the United States. It is a native of Old Spain, and is called the *Gareanza* or *Braganza.* Peas of this kind yield, in Old Spain, 300 bushels to the acre; they sell, ripe, in Havana market, for $1 to $1,50 per bushel. They are excellent for soups, are larger than even the marrowfats, and are said to be better, cooked in the same way.—*Middleton Sentinel.*

Rearing Calves.—The following is the general method of rearing calves in Britain, and differs not materially from that followed by Bakewell, the great cattle breeder.

"The calves sucked for a week or fortnight, according to their strength; new milk in a pail was then given a few meals; next new milk and skim milk mixed, a few meals more; then skim milk alone, or porridge made with milk, water ground oats, &c., and sometimes oil cake, until cheese making commenced, if it was a dairy farm; after which, whey porridge, or sweet whey, in the field, being careful to house them in the night, until the warm weather was confirmed. Bull calves, and high-bred heifers, however, were suffered to remain at the teat until they were six, nine, or perhaps twelve months old, letting them run with their dams, or more frequently less valuable cows, or heifers."

A Radish.—The Olentaugy (Ohio) Gazette states, that a radish was brought to that office, by Capt. C. Plumb, of Berkshire, which excels any other instance of extraordinary vegetable production on record. It measured two and a half feet circumference, two feet in length, and weighed twenty-one pounds!—*Albany D. Advertiser.*

We learn from a friend who recently visited Old Concord, that the inhabitants of that town are about erecting a monument on the Battle Ground, on the spot where the two first British soldiers fell, and where they were buried, and where their grave stones still are. The land belonged to the Rev. and venerable Dr Thayer—now in his 83d year and still continues in the ministry, who has given it to the town for that purpose.—*Boston Trans.*

Stone Planing Machine.—The last number of the Mechanics' Magazine states that a machine has been invented by Mr James Hunter, superintendant of the Leysmill quarries, near Arbroath, which will entirely supersede all hand labor in the hewing and smoothing of stone. It is said to be so ingenious and effective a machine that it will reduce and polish more blocks of rough stone in *thirty minutes*, at a cost of *one shilling and ninepence*, than a good mason could reduce and polish in *five days and a half*, at a cost of *five shillings and ninepence*; and the machine moreover, will do the work in far more workman-like manner than the man!

A letter from Washington says: "I hear today that the Indians are marching fifteen hundred strong to the capital of Florida. Mr White, delegate from that territory, has just arrived from home, and is in great apprehension upon the subject—blood is flowing, and the greatest outrages have been perpetrated."

A Bargain.—John Jacob Astor recently sold the Great Hotel in Broadway, to his son, William B. Astor, for *one dollar* and delivered the title deeds on New Year's Day. If John Jacob has any more such bargains on hand, we'll take one of them.—*N. Y. Herald.*

Dr Xavier Chabert, the celebrated Fire King, died in New York, on Wednesday last, in a most awful manner. He was engaged in making some experiments in chemistry with *phosphoric æther*, or prussic acid, which exploded, and scattered his mortal frame into a thousand atoms.

Silk Manufactures.—At the beautiful village of Poughkeepsies, situated on the North river, there are now being built six factories intended for the manufacture of silk goods.—*Balt. Farmer.*

The First Kennebec and Boston Stage left Quebec yesterday afternoon. There were three passengers; one was Captain Douglas, of the bark *Endeavor*, wrecked in the ice, who is on his way to England. The time taken to Boston, may be,—by an extra expense of a dollar, so as to overtake the line of stages at Skowhegan—four days and a half, and the travelling expenses to Boston about twenty five dollars. From Boston to New York, the time occupied is often as short as 15 to 17 hours; but allowing another day and a half, the traveller leaving Quebec, may get to New York in six, and certainly *seven* days.—*Quebec Gaz. Dec.* 18.

Soft Water.—There is a great complaint that the rain water cisterns almost throughout the city are empty, and some families are obliged to melt snow—some even use hard well water, and others buy aqueduct water at considerable expense with which to meet the weekly demands of washing day, and the daily calls for other purposes. Our cistern has been empty several weeks—but we have neither bought nor borrowed soft water, and yet our washing was never better done. We take the hard water from our well, and into one bucket we put one ounce of the *carbonate of Soda*, which dissolves immediately when the water is warmed, and it becomes at once as soft and harmless as the purest rain water. This article is for sale at any of the apothecaries or druggists, and costs 12 cents per lb.—*Boston Mer. Journal.*

Mr Whitmarsh, of this town, who went to France last fall, to acquaint himself more particularly with various branches of the Silk business, has concluded also to visit Italy in the prosecution of his plans, and where, probably, more is to be learned than even in France.—*Hampshire Gaz.*

A French chemist is said to have condensed carbonic acid gas to a solid state. The temperature required was nearly one hundred degrees below the freezing point.

The Ettrick Shepherd, James Hogg, died of bilious fever at his residence on the banks of the Yarrow, on the 21st of November, aged 59, leaving many admirers throughout the world.

Mr A. Brunson of Meadville, Pa. says, from fifteen years' experience, he finds that an Indian meal poultice, covered over with young hyson tea, softened with hot water, and laid over burns and frozen flesh, as hot as it can be borne, will relieve the pain in five minutes; that if blisters have not arisen before, they will not after it is put on, and that one poultice is generally sufficient to effect a cure.

(For the New England Farmer.)

MUCK, OR MUD FOR MANURE.

Mr Editor:—I wish to make, through your paper, a few enquiries respecting the best mode of using muck as a manure. Is muck profitably applied as a top dressing to meadows? and if good, what kind of soil is most profited by it?—If applied to plough-land, what kinds of crop are most benefitted by it? Is it of advantage to it to lie one season exposed to the action of the sun, air, and frost? Will it pay the expense of making into compost in the common way of making composts? Will it pay the extra expense of carting into a barn-yard, provided the expense is twice as much as to get it on to the field? Is it a good manure for wheat? What is the comparative value of muck, when compared with stable manure?

Last winter I dug from a muck bed something over four hundred loads; some of which I put on plough-land, and some I used as a top-dressing on meadow land. I put on at the rate of about 100 sled loads to the acre, about two thirds of a cart load making a sled load. That which I put on my meadows, appeared in the spring to do much, very much good. No meadow in the neighborhood bid so fair: a drought followed — and when I cut my grass I could see little or no effect from it, excepting a little which I put on some quite moist land, which I thought was some better. It was, however, a common remark among the farmers in this region, during the last season, that manure, as a top-dressing, did no good, owing to the dry weather. I had a piece of about two and a half acres, on which I put perhaps 250 loads, which I planted to corn, which was a very good crop — better by far than I ever had known that piece to produce; which, by the way, I had planted several times before. I left a strip through, near the middle of about one fourth of an acre, on which I put about one half the quantity of stable dung. There was a visible difference in the corn, the muck having the preference. When it was put in the corn hills it seemed to have a deleterious effect; I should think worse than nothing: this might be owing to the dry season. I put it into potato hills, side by side with barn dung, and to say the least of it, it did quite as much good to all appearance.

I am doing considerable at digging muck this season, and, perhaps, I may give you at some future time more specifically the result of my experiments. In the mean time, if some of your many readers will answer the above questions, and thereby draw the attention to improving farms by this kind of manure, you will, perhaps, confer a favor on others beside myself.

I am acquainted with some farmers in the southern part of this county, who have used, and seen it used, who say that it is worth as much as barn dung. I have learned from a foreigner that it is much used in Europe, and successfully too, as a manure. The bed from which I take my muck is so soft that I cannot get on to it, except in the winter when it is frozen. It was undoubtedly once a pond hole of from six to ten feet deep, containing two or three acres. A neighbor of mine has dug from the bed of a small river in a dry time, muck similar in appearance to what I used, but could discover no good effects; is it not possible, that although the substance was the same in appearance, yet his being taken from the bed of a river, it might have been drenched, and the virtue as a manure washed out.

I hope that some of your readers, who have made use of this kind of manure, will give to the public, through the medium of your paper, the result of their experiments.

I am, respectfully yours, &c.

R. BISSELL.

Torringford, Conn., Jan. 8, 1836.

By the Editor.—The substance which our correspondent calls *muck*, appears to be the same which is denominated *swamp mud, river mud, or pond mud*, by Dr Deane, and other agricultural writers. It is defined a black, or dark colored sediment, found at the bottom of ponds, rivers, creeks, ditches, and wet sunken places. It is mostly composed of a fine vegetable mould, mixed with the substance of perished vegetables, &c. and therefore it contains much of the natural food of plants.

"It is happy," says Dr Deane, "for the farmer that Providence has prepared for him these magazines of manure in all parts of the country.—None but the stupid will let them lie unnoticed or unremoved. When a dry autumn happens, the prudent farmers will be very industrious in carting mud up from evaporated ponds, and other sunken places in their farms, and laying it upon their light soils, especially high gravelly knolls; or into their barn-yards, if the distance be not too great.

"Mud that is newly taken up, may be laid on grass land. But if it is to be ploughed into the soil, it should first lie exposed to the frost of one winter. The frosts destroy its tenacity, and reduce it to a fine powder; after which it may be spread like ashes. But if it be ploughed into the soil before it has been mellowed, it will remain in lumps for several years, and be of less advantage.

"A layer of mud will be no bad ingredient in a heap of compost. But it should be contiguous to a stratum of lime, if that can be procured.—But where this is wanting, new horse dung is the best substitute to excite a strong fermentation.

"The best method of managing all sorts of mud, were it not for increasing the labor, would be to lay it in farm-yards, and let it be thoroughly mixed with the dung and stale of animals. When it is so managed, the compost is excellent, and fit for almost any soil, though best for light ones. Perhaps the advantage of it is so great as to pay for the increased expense of twice carting. For it will absorb the stale of cattle and retain it better than straw and other light substances."

HOW TO AVOID DEAFNESS.—Few need be told, that if they wish to hear well, and avoid deafness, they must guard against wet feet, thin shoes, cold currents, and draughts of air, keeping on wet clothes, sleeping in damp rooms and unaired beds, going into the night air from heated apartments, living in marshy and low situations, &c. Shunning these things, those who would retain their hearing unimpaired till old age, should attend to their general health, breathe a pure air, take as much out-door exercise as they can, live on plain, but nutritious food, keep the mind calm and tranquil, and be especially careful to prevent constipation of the bowels.—*Curtis's Observations on Hearing.*

(From Loudon's Magazine.)

A DESCRIPTION OF A MODE OF CULTIVATING ONIONS.

Sir:—Your correspondent, John Mitchel, Jr. treats on the culture of the Onion. I write not to dissuade him from following the plans which his own observation has suggested to him, but to state my own experience on this subject, as it differs widely from his. In March, 1830, I lived as gardener to J. B. Praed, Esq., of Tyringham, Bucks, and, having occasion to make an asparagus bed, I resolved upon sowing onions, of the Deptford sort, in drill between the rows. The ground was not prepared in the way usual for asparagus, but turned over to the depth of one spade only. The soil being of a tenacious and cohesive quality, I used a quantity of coal ashes and rotten dung, and all being in readiness for the asparagus, I proceeded to plant it in rows eighteen inches asunder, and the onions in drills between these rows. I finished each row as I proceeded, which caused a great deal of trampling, and the ground was remarkably hard after the whole was completed. When the crops began to grow, I thought of hoeing, thinning, etc.; but, being a native of Northampton, where some of the best onions in the kingdom are grown, I recollected seeing, at different times, onions growing in hard walk, and these the best samples of a whole acre. I accordingly resolved to let my crop take its chance. Weeding and thinning were performed by the hand, which greatly increased the solidity of the soil.

My crop was pulled up without attention being paid to any particular time or form; the onions composing it were sound and good, while the crops of my neighbors were suffering from what are termed mouldy-nosed onions. I had several bushels from a small piece of ground, and was obliged to exchange with my neighbors for pickles. I presented Mr Atkins, nurseryman of Northampton, with twelve which weighed eleven pounds. I planted twentyfour of them the succeeding spring, for seed, which weighed nearly twentytwo pounds, and were shown to several friends before they were planted, who can testify the fact. I cannot say what quantity of seeds they produced, as I left my situation at that time.

A great deal has been said about growing large onions; but, according to my humble opinion, large onions are not the most desirable. From my experience, (which, I confess is not a lengthened one, as I am but a young gardener,) an onion from one to two inches diameter is the most profitable, of the readiest sale, and the best for gardeners and gentlemen. When a large onion goes into a gentleman's kitchen, it is cut and a part only used; and the remainder loses its quality, and ultimately bears company with the peelings to the dung heap.

I advise John Mitchell, if he wishes for large onions, to try as I have suggested above. His soil will suit every purpose. He will find an advantage in time; run no risk in displacing the roots, which is apt to check vegetation; and he will not be so likely to get disease in the crops as the trampling forms gutters in which he can, if dry weather occur, put water, and supply the roots more gradually with moisture; or, if a continuance of rain should happen, these gutters will carry off the superfluous water. WM. WHIDDEN.

Chicheley Hall, Bucks.

(From the Tennessee Farmer.)

REARING OF STOCK.

In our last number, we promised to notice this subject at an early period. We now proceed, in part, to redeem that pledge, by replying to the queries of our correspondent from Middle Tennessee.

The following rules, we think, are applicable to the rearing of every species of Stock :—

First, — Breed from the best stock you can procure. There is little or no difference in the expense of raising a fine high blooded horse, worth from $150 to $3000, and an ill made, weak and worthless animal, which, perhaps, may be sold for from $30 to $60.

Secondly, — Let your stock be well fed, well sheltered, and in every respect well attended to. No half-starved animal, exposed to every inclemency of the weather, will attain to perfection, and many will die under such treatment. It is, besides, one of the thousand instances of false economy, but, in truth, of shameful waste, thus to treat any animal ; because, it is not only attended with a diminution of its value, far exceeding the expense saved, but it is a wanton waste of food. The corn, for instance, required to sustain the life of a miserable, half-starved hog, weighing, perhaps, at three years old, from 120 to 150 lbs., and of fattening him, if judiciously fed, would have caused him, at eighteen months old, to have weighed from 200 to 300 lbs., and the result is similar in regard to other stock.

Thirdly, — Let your animals be as regularly supplied with salt as with food.

Fourthly, — Let your food be properly and economically prepared. One bushel of grain, ground or steamed, will be equal to one and a half, or two, fed whole and dry — and hay or straw, cut fine, is proportionably superior in value to the same quantity, fed without cutting.

Fifthly, — Let the best practicable plan be adopted for saving the manure produced by the litter, dung and urine of the stock. This will, if judiciously applied, be worth half their feed, and sometimes more than all of it.

As to the kind of stock, whether horses, mules, hogs, cattle, or sheep, which it would be most profitable to raise — this will depend on the capital and the description of each man's farm. For instance, the farmer who is able to keep brood mares of the best blood, and can breed from first rate horses, should prefer raising fine horses to mules ; while he who can only avail himself of coarse, ordinary mares, should breed mules.— Where there is a sufficiency of open land, for grain, meadow, and pasture, and several hands constantly employed, and also the necessary shelters, we have no hesitation in saying, that the farmer ought to raise at least horses or mules, cattle and hogs : because, the horses and mules, if well supplied with good hay, will require but little grain ; the cattle will consume the straw, shucks, and other provender, which could not be consumed by either horses or hogs, and, except for pasture in summer, they can be raised with very little expense, while the manure they will make will be of great value. The whole corn crop, allowing the oats and rye for horses, may be most profitably fed to hogs, and with the aid of clover pastures in summer, and roots, such as artichokes, Irish potatoes, mangel wurtzel, &c., these animals, if properly attended to, and always kept in good order, will be found to be amongst the most profitable kind of stock ; whereas, if reared in the common old fashioned mode, they will not pay for the grain consumed by them, even at the most moderate price. In the rearing of stock, it should always be remembered, that care, punctuality in feeding, and a strict observance, not of parsimony, or stinginess, but of true economy, which, to a great extent consists in liberality, are indispensably necessary to a profitable result. By the aid of these, many animals will, by their manure alone, pay for their feed, and all will, by the same means, make full remuneration for a large portion of their sustenance.

We should think, that by the aid of clover, judiciously managed and used, the occupants of the fertile land of Middle Tennessee could not fail to find the rearing of stock a most profitable employment.

Watering Cattle in Winter.—Perhaps it would excite the surprise of many of our readers, should we assert that cattle generally suffer more from thirst in winter than during the heat of summer. Yet there is strong reason to believe that this is, to a great extent, the case. Cattle whose winter food consists entirely of hay, straw, and other dry materials, need a plentiful and frequent supply of pure fresh water. This many do not obtain, as nearly all running streams are covered with ice, and cattle are obliged to wander a considerable distance from the yard to the watering place, through deep snows or over a slippery path, exposed to the annoyance of dogs, or to be gored by other cattle, and rather than endure this, they often suffer much from a want of water. It has been ascertained, that a bullock, who has water at command, will drink it eight times a day. It should always, therefore, be of easy access to cattle at all times ; and not on a distant part of the farm, or in the open road, so that in order that cattle may help themselves to it, you are obliged to leave your gate open, or barn-yard bars down, and thus your yard is thronged with vagrant colts and other ill-bred animals, who take possession of whatever fodder they can lay their mouths upon, and pay no regard to the rights of *meum* and *tuum*. Dr Anderson says that he knew a man who became very rich by being *great* in *little* matters, that is, in attending carefully to things which other consider of too little consequence to claim their notice ; and this man always made it a point to see that his cattle, particularly his milch cows, should have a constant supply of the purest water. —*Genesee Farmer.*

Pruning Grape Vines.—Hardy vines may be pruned any time during winter. If the work is done in the earlier part, the wounded parts will have longer time to become dry and hardened, and the sap vessels closed so that there will be less danger of their bleeding in spring. This operation is best performed during mild open weather, which frequently occurs in winter. Many grape vines of the hardy varieties have been allowed to grow without control, and have consequently become too thick and numerous in the branches.— All but the most thrifty of the last year's shoots should therefore be cut away, and increased thriftiness in the vine, and an improvement in the fruit will be the consequence.—*Genesee Farmer.*

Cold Winters.—In the year 400, the Euxine was covered with ice for 20 days. In 859, the Adriatic was covered with ice, but for what length of time does not appear. In 929, the Thames was frozen over for thirteen weeks ; the same river was also frozen over in 1263, 1269, and 1607 and 1608. Several times since, the same has happened. The winter of 1683 was so severe in Europe, that trees were split by the frost. Loaded sledges passed on the ice from Boston to Nantasket in the winter of 1696–7, and have done the same one or two winters since. On the 12th of December, 1708, the frost in New England was so intense, that trees were killed. A fall of snow took place in February, 1717, so deep that people in Boston had to get out of their chamber windows. Eleven hundred sheep perished on Fisher's Island, from being buried 16 feet in the snow : two were found alive, after a lapse of 28 days, they having supported themselves by chewing the wool of the others. In 1780, the Chesapeake was covered with ice as far as the mouth of the Potomac. In the same year, troops of horses and heavy cannon crossed on the ice from New York to Staten Island ; and Long Island Sound was nearly covered with ice. Almost all the birds of the forest perished.

Lawyers should study Horticulture.—A case is recorded in the law reports, of an action which was brought against a gardener near London, in the reign of Charles the Second, for selling cabbage seed instead of cauliflower seed. On trial it appeared, that both had been planted near each other, by the purchaser, and to this error, the gardener contended that the degeneracy of the seed was owing. But he lost his cause in consequence of the prevailing ignorance of what is termed the sexual doctrine of plants. But it has been made known in succeeding ages that varieties of the same species, as are cabbage and cauliflower, may be totally changed by mixing of the pollen or farina of the flowers, a fact which not only teaches gardeners the necessity of raising seeds of these varieties remote from each other, but also shows the importance of members of the legal profession understanding the principles of agricultural and horticultural knowledge.—*Gen. Far.*

Incorporating Knitting.—Our industrious dames and daughters of the Commonwealth ought to know that the men are getting the Legislature to incorporate a man company, to do all the knitting in the State. It is too bad, thus to break up almost the last vestige of fire-side industry left to the ladies. We hope they will send in a petition against this infringement on their domestic concerns.—*Advocate.*

Remarkable Circumstance.—Upon the trial (by court martial) of Capt. Seymour and the officers of H. B. Majesty's frigate Challenge, for the loss of that ship near the port of Conception, on the coast of Chili, the extraordinary fact was given in evidence that the late earthquakes on that coast have transformed what was previously a current of two miles an hour to the southward, and that the soundings along the whole coasts have been materially changed.

The first efforts in all great undertakings are generally weak. The earliest navigators kept in sight of the shore, distrusting their own powers.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY EVENING, JAN. 27, 1836.

REMARKS ON THE ECONOMY AND SOURCES OF HEAT.—The great Sir Francis Bacon, in one of his philosophical essays makes the following remark:—"It is certain that, of all the powers of Nature, Heat is the chief, both in the frame of Nature, and works of Art." This wonderful power, property, or modification of matter has, accordingly, commanded the attention, and been made the subject of the researches of philosophers and men of mind in all ages and countries. But it appears to us that those who have looked at the subject, with an eye to economy, have, generally speaking, paid less attention to the great source or storehouse of heat, which the earth presents, than is due to its importance.

Dr Hutton, Dr Darwin, and others, have supposed the central part of the earth to be a great mass of matter, kept in a state of constant fusion, like melted metal, by heat. The last mentioned philosopher says, "The variation of the compass can only be accounted for by supposing the central parts of the earth to consist of a fluid mass, and that part of this fluid is iron, which requiring a greater degree of heat to bring it to fusion than glass or other metals, remains a solid ore. The *vis inertiæ* (*tendency to remain motionless*) of this fluid mass with the iron in it, occasions it to perform fewer revolutions than the crust of solid earth over it; and thus it is gradually left behind, and the place where the floating iron resides is pointed to by the direct or retrograde motion of the magnetic needle."

We shall neither attack nor defend this theory of Dr Darwin, a writer in whom the fancy of the poet sometimes obtains the ascendency over the sober judgment and rigid inductions of the philosopher; but seek in other facts and appearances some indications of the great magazine of heat, deposited in the central parts of the great globe we inhabit. An English Magazine states that "at Ting-Tang copper mine, in Cornwall, 1068 feet deep, the water was at the temperature of 82 deg. At Huel Vartin mine, 1254 feet deep, water was 79 deg. and at Poldice, 1176 feet, the water was upwards of 100 degrees. Although the heat of water, in these instances, was not in exact proportion to the depth of the mines, yet its temperature in all the cases cited appears to have been much higher than the mean temperature of the earth at the surface in the places where these mines were located.

A writer in one of the numbers of the British Almanac observes, that "It is thought that heat may have been the original cause of the fluidity of the earth, and that there may still remain enough to keep the interior portions in the same state. The more the subject has been examined, the more evidence has accumulated in favor of the position that the temperature increases as we descend below the surface. There are numerous instances in which we have been able by means of natural and artificial excavations to penetrate to a depth of from 1300 to 1600 feet. The general inference from all the observations made in different parts of the earth is that there is an increase of heat, amounting to about one degree of Fah. for every 46 feet in depth; that at the depth of 10,000 feet the heat would be sufficient to boil water; and that at the depth of about 100 miles, or 1-46th part of the distance to the centre, the heat would be intense enough to melt most of the earths and stones that are known to enter into the composition of the globe. These facts and appearances have an important bearing on the phenomena of earthquakes and volcanoes, and open a wide field of speculation to the natural historian and geologist" It would be easy to present volumes on this subject, but we leave it in the able hands of Professors Silliman, Hitchcock, and others, who are adepts in the science and discoveries of Geology; we shall attempt nothing more than a few practical deductions from the premises, which may be of use to the cultivator and economist.

We know that in some countries within the frigid zone, which man is unaccountably contented to occupy, the inhabitants are obliged to burrow like bears under ground for nearly one half the year; and they would as soon think of dwelling in castles in the air as in houses on the earth's surface. The Eskimaux Indians contrive to make themselves comfortable in subterranean habitations when quicksilver freezes in the open air, with no other fuel than the oil which faintly illuminates their dismal dwellings. And although in our climate we can exist without having recourse to that *ground heat*, which alone keeps the poor Greenlander's lamp of life alive during the horrors of a polar winter, it appears to me that inhabitants of our milder regions might condescend to make a more liberal and general use of Nature's subterranean magazines of caloric than they generally have done. It is more economical, so far as fuel is concerned, as well as regards other purposes, for poor families to dwell in cellars than in garrets; and what are called basement stories are more easily rendered of a comfortable temperature, both in cold and warm weather, than more elevated apartments.

We should think it expedient for the farmer, in building his dwelling-house to seek advantage from warmth treasured in the earth by the bounty of Nature. This may be done by placing his house on the south side of a knoll, hill or rise of ground, with a fair exposure in front to the sun. The back side and a part or the whole of the ends of the building may be enclosed by the earth of the hill, either in immediate contact with the walls which would give the most warmth; or a covered way, with or without sky-lights, may be left between the house and the hill, which may serve as a lumber room, a place to preserve vegetables from frost, and answer other valuable purposes in rural economy.

If, however, such a site for a farmer's mansion house should not exactly comport with ideas of gentility entertained by Mr Cultivator or his lady, he may nevertheless allow his domestic animals the benefits to be derived from warmth obtained from subterranean sources.—Swine, especially, are much the better for warm winter habitations; and if provided with warm, dry, comfortable and cleanly lodgings will fatten with less food, and gain flesh as fast in winter as in summer. They are much the better for dry and clean as well as warm lodgings; and if their styes are defended on three sides by the earth of a knoll, or side hill against the cold winds of winter, with some contrivance like a swinging door, which will close of itself, and prevent the access of cold at the entrance, they will thrive on but a part of the food, which would be necessary to enable them to support a sorry existence in opposition to the incessant attacks of the pitiless elements. Swine and cattle intended for the shambles, if well and warmly lodged in winter, are half fed, and if not made comfortable in that respect are scarcely worth feeding; and attempting to fatten them is like laboring to fill sieves with water. With store animals the case may be different, and if they are too warmly housed, they are liable to suffer in cases of accidental or inevitable exposure, much more than those which have never been accustomed to warm lodgings.

MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY,

Saturday, Jan. 23.

EXHIBITION OF FRUITS.

APPLES.—Joseph Balch, a fine Apple, of English origin, name not known.

Cheever Newhall, two kinds, names unknown; good.

PEARS.—Cheever Newhall, Wilkinson Pear, past its prime, but may be considered as keeping well into December, fully sustaining its previous good character.

Gen. Lyman, a fine Pear, resembling in many respects the Echasserie, of Cox — stem longer and skin greener — flesh melting, juicy and fine flavored — with a firm external texture, may be reckoned with the best of the season. For the Committee, B. V. FRENCH.

N. B.—The importance of the Society's meetings at this season is fully compensated by the testing of a fruit described as above from Gen. Lyman, grown on the Gov. Gore Place, Waltham.

PRESENTATION OF PLATE.—The Massachusetts Horticultural Society at a meeting held the 24th Oct. voted, unanimously, to award to Messrs Winship, of Brighton, Robert Manning, of Salem, William Kenrick, of Newton, M. P. Wilder, of Dorchester, and Samuel Walker, of Roxbury, one piece of plate each, of the value of *fifty* dollars, for their long and valuable service, and successful exertions in advancing the interests and design of the Society, by introducing valuable varieties of new fruit and flowers, and their successful cultivation of the same. We understand that the awards will be presented to each of the above named gentlemen, at the Society's Hall, Nos. 79 and 81 Cornhill, on Saturday next, at 12 o'clock, M. by the Hon. E. Vose, President of the Society.

FARMING ARTICLES FOR WINTER USE.—We have been several times requested by many of our subscribers to prepare a list of the various articles which are called for, and indispensable to the farmer at this season of the year, with the current price attached to each. We have prepared such a list, and shall publish it in one or two weeks.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—We learn that as Uriel Crocker, son of Mr Samuel Crocker, of West Barnstable, aged 19, was hunting partridges on the 13th inst. his gun missed fire; and taking it down to examine the lock, resting its breech against his body, it went off while he held it in that position, forcing the breech of the gun into his bowels, so as to cause his death the next day.

ROBBER CAUGHT.—George Jackson, supposed to have been concerned in the robbery of the Messrs Ashleys, bankers, of London, was arrested in Philadelphia on Friday, 15th inst. 200*l.* was offered for his apprehension by the British Consul at New York. About $10,000 was found in his possession. He has been brought on to New York, and placed in prison, subject to the order of the British Consul.

A cock-fight has been determined upon between the New York and Philadelphia sportsmen. The Herald says that three purses have been made up for the occasion; two of $10,000 and one of $30,000. *O tempora! O mores!*

The Banking House and lot of the U. S. Branch Bank in this city is to be sold at auction on the 22d February next.

***In the article headed "*Lucerne*," in our last number, second line from the bottom, for "It has been mowed five times a year," read "It has been mowed *from three to* five times," &c.

BRIGHTON MARKET,—Monday, Jan. 25, 1836.
Reported for the Daily Advertiser & Patriot.

At Market 325 Beef Cattle, and 610 Sheep.

Prices—*Beef Cattle*—A small advance was effected. We noticed a very fine yoke from Shrewsbury, Worcester Co. taken at 37s 6d, and a few very fine at 36s; prime at 31s 6d a 34s 6d; good at 28s 6d a 31s 6d; small cattle 24s a 27s.

Sheep—One lot was very fine, and were taken at 39s. The full supply for a few weeks past has depressed the market. Lots were taken at 21s, 24s, 27s, 30s, and 31s 6d.

Swine—None at market.

TO BE LET,

A Farm, situated in Medford, now occupied by Mr Noah Johnson, containing about 220 Acres of Land, in a high state of cultivation; the buildings are commodious and in good repair. It has the advantage of the Boston and Lowell Rail Road, and the Middlesex Canal running through it, and is bounded on Mystic River, which afford great facilities for transporting manure, &c. Possession given 1st of April next.

Also — A Tan Yard in Charlestown, near Mystic River and occupied by the subscribers containing 1000 Vats, with all the necessary buildings and machinery for carrying on the tanning business extensively. Connected with the yard is a water power sufficient for grinding 2000 Cords Bark per year, milling hides, smoothing leather, pumping, &c. Also, a large and very convenient wharf for landing bark and wood. Possession given immediately. For further particulars inquire of

GILBERT TUFTS, or
JOSEPH F. TUFTS, at the Yard.

Charlestown, Jan 27, 1836. tf.

WANTED.

A young man who has some knowledge of Trees and Plants and understands somewhat of the Nursery business, and above all one who is active and energetic, and desirous to give every attention faithfully to the business of his employer, may find a permanent situation and fair compensation by applying to the subscribers. The situation he will fill is one of considerable responsibility and no one need apply who cannot satisfy them on the above points. WM. PRINCE & SONS,

Lin. Bot. Garden, Flushing, near N. York.

Jan 27 1836. 2t.

A PLACE WANTED.

A capable and industrious Man with a Wife, wishes a situation as a Gardener. The best of references will be given. Apply at this office. Jan. 27.

GARDENER WANTED.

A first rate Gardener, one well acquainted with the different departments of this business. None other need apply. Address P., care of the Publisher.

GARDEN SEEDS AT $1 PER BOX.

Small Boxes Garden Seeds, containing a good assortment for a very small garden, for sale at $1 per box.

Also — A very large assortment of Garden and Flower Seeds, raised in gardens connected with the Agricultural Warehouse, &c. now ready for sale and orders promptly executed. GEO. C. BARRETT,

Jan. 27. New England Seed Store.

Publishers of Papers who will insert the above a reasonable time shall receive one of the above boxes.

WANTS A SITUATION.

A married man with no family, wants a situation as Gardener. He can give good recommendations as to his capacity, &c.; understands the management of every thing pertaining to Green House Culture. Application made at this office will be promptly attended to. 3t. Jan. 27

WANTED A SITUATION

As Gardener, a steady, active man, who is conversant with every department of the business, and has lived for some years in some of the most respectable places in Massachusetts, and will be highly recommended by his former employers. Any commands directed to T. L. G., care of Mr P. Mooney, Book Store, Federal Street, will be respectfully attended to. January 5th, 1836.

SEEDS AT NEW ORLEANS.

AMOS B. BASS has for sale, at New Orleans, Boxes of Garden Seeds for dealers, small boxes do, do, for family gardens, of the growth of 1835. Dec. 30

VALUABLE NEW WORK ON SILK

American Silk Grower's Guide, is this day published at the office of the New England Farmer—being the art of growing the Mulberry and manufacture of Silk on the system of successive crops each season—by Wm. Kenrick, author of the New American Orchardist; 112 pp. price 42 cents, neatly bound in cloth. Booksellers and traders supplied on favorable terms. GEO. C. BARRETT.

FINE EARLY PEAS.

Earliest Dwarf Peas—the earliest variety of Peas, grown from 20 to 24 inches high—consequently require no sticks.

Early Washington Peas; a very *productive* early variety.
" Charlton " Early Golden Hotspur, do.;
Bishop's Early Dwarf, do.; very Dwarf and early.

Also—Dwarf Scymetar Peas—A new variety from Scotland; this Pea will be found a great acquisition for a very productive and delicious *late* sort.

Dwarf Blue Imperial Pea;
Large Dwarf Marrowfat, do.; &c. &c.

All the above were raised expressly for the New England Seed Store, Nos. 51 & 52, North Market Street.

FARM TO LET IN MEDFORD

About 5 miles from Boston; containing 40 acres of excellent Land, well adapted to mowing, tillage and pasturage. Said farm has been heretofore improved as a milk farm.

Apply to Luther Angier, near Medford Bridge.

N. B. Adjoining the above farm is about the same number acres, of similar land, which may be had on application to NATHAN ADAMS, Esq.

Medford, Nov. 26, 1835. tf

SEEDS IN FLORIDA.

ELIAB STONE BREWER, Apalachicola, has for sale, boxes of assorted Garden Seeds, of a superior quality put up at the N. E. Seed Store, Boston. Dec. 30

NEW VARIETY OF BARLEY.

For sale a few bushels of superior German Barley, without hulls, weighs 60 lbs. to the bushel, and will be found a great acquisition to the cultivator. Price $1 per peck.

Jan. 6 G. C. BARRETT.

GREEN HOUSE GLASS.

Of superior thickness for sale by LORING & KUPFER No 10 Merchants Row. 3m Jan. 6 1836.

SPLENDID FLOWER BULBS FOR WINTER.

WILL BLOOM IN THE HOUSE.

Hyacinths—
Boquet Tendre,
Groot Voorst,
Parquin,
Grand Monarche,
Orondates,
Voltaire,
Temple of Apollo,
Lord Wellington,
Madam Zoutman,
Madam Van Murkeys,
Gloria Florum,
L'Ami Du Cœur,
Pyramides des Roses.
200 Assorted Double.
200 Assorted Single, &c. &c.

Amaryllis (*most splendid flower.*)
Gladiolus Pseitticinna.
Polyanthus Narcissus.
Crocus.
Double Jonquills.
Single do.
Crown Imperial (*of varieties.*)
Frittellera.
Colchicum.
Cyclamens.
Tulips, (assorted,) &c. &c.

Also—A large collection of splendid varieties of Flower Seeds.

These are to be received by the *Vanella*, from Holland, and will be ready for sale as soon as she comes up from Gloucester, where she put in.

It being late in the season, and having a very large collection on hand, the above will be sold unusually low.

GEO. C. BARRETT.

SEEDS & TREES.

100 lbs. White Italian Mulberry Seed;
1200 " Dark Red Onion;
400 " Early Pale Red do.;
500 " Large Yellow do.;
400 " Early Large White Silver Skined ditto very superior and a far more sure crop than any other white variety;
2500 " Cabbages of all the choicest kinds;
2250 " Beets do. do.;
450 Bushels Peas do. do.;
300 do. Beans do. do.

Also—every other choice variety of Garden Seeds, all the growth of 1835, and venders and others will be supplied at very moderate rates and a convenient credit. A very large stock of Grass Seeds of every description, a few pounds of a superior large Teazel Seed, and all the choice new varieties of Potatoes &c. Chinese and Italian Mulberry Trees of various sizes by Hundreds and Thousands—Also, a hundred Thousand Cuttings perfectly prepared for planting.

Priced Catalogues both wholesale and retail will be sent to every applicant. WM. PRINCE & SONS,

Linnæan Garden & Nurseries, Flushing, near N. Y.

Jan. 12 2t

WANTED.

A good capable Man with a Wife, is wanted to go to Illinois and take charge of a farm—also four or five good men for assistants; liberal compensation will be paid, with all necessary expenses for the journey, for terms please apply to Grigg's & Weld, Boston. Letters post paid will receive immediate attention. ew6w Jan. 5

PRICES OF COUNTRY PRODUCE.

CORRECTED WITH GREAT CARE, WEEKLY.

			From	To
Apples,	Russetts and Baldwins.	barrel	1 50	2 25
Beans,	white,	bushel	2 04	2 12
Beef,	mess,	barrel	10 50	11 00
	Cargo, No. 1.	"	8 50	9 00
	prime,	"	7 00	7 25
Beeswax,	(American)	pound	25	27
Butter	store, No. 1,	"	18	21
Cheese,	new milk,	"	8	9
Feathers,	northern, geese,	"	46	50
	southern, geese,	"	42	45
Flax,	American,	"	9	10
Fish,	Cod,	quintal	2 75	2 83
Flour,	Genesee, cash	barrel	7 62	7 75
	Baltimore, Howard street,	"	7 50	7 62
	Baltimore, wharf,	"	7 25	7 37
	Alexandria,	"	7 37	7 50
Grain,	Corn, northern yellow	bushel	90	92
	southern flat yellow	"	85	86
	white,	"	79	81
	Rye, northern,	"	1 05	1 06
	Barley,	"	90	1 00
	Oats, northern, (prime)	"	61	62
Hay,	best English, per ton of 2000 lbs		22 00	25 00
	eastern screwed,	"	21 00	23 00
	hard pressed,	"	21 00	23 00
Honey,		gallon		
Hops,	1st quality	pound	13	14
	2d quality	"	10	11
Lard,	Boston, 1st sort,	"	12	13
	southern, 1st sort,	"	11	12
Leather,	slaughter, sole,	"	19	20
	do. upper,	"	12	14
	dry hide, sole,	"	19	21
	do. upper,	"	18	20
	Philadelphia, sole,	"	27	29
	Baltimore, sole,	"	25	27
Lime,	best sort,	cask	1 00	1 06
Plaster Paris,	per ton of 2200 lbs.		3 12	3 37
Pork,	Mass. inspect. extra clear,	barrel	22 00	23 00
	Navy, mess	"		
	bone, middlings, scarce,	"		
Seeds,	Herd's Grass,	bushel		
	Red Top,	"	75	90
	Red Clover, northern,	pound	10	12
Silk Cocoons,	(American)	bushel		
Tallow,	tried,	cwt.	8 50	9 00
Wool,	prime, or Saxony Fleeces,	pound	65	75
	American, full blood, washed,	"	55	65
	do. 3-4ths do.	"	55	58
	do. 1-2 do.	"		50
	do. 1-4 and common	"	40	45
	Native washed	"	38	60
Northern pulled.	Pulled superfine,	"	58	60
	1st Lambs,	"	50	53
	2d do.	"	40	41
	3d do.	"	30	35
	1st Spinning,	"	29	50

Southern pulled wool is generally 5 cts. less per lb.

PROVISION MARKET.

RETAIL PRICES.

Hams,	northern,	pound	12 12
	southern, and western,	"	11 12
Pork,	whole hogs,	"	8 9
Poultry,		"	10 14
Butter,	(tub)	"	18 20
	lump	"	22 25
Eggs,		dozen	25 28
Potatoes,		bushel	30 50
Cider,		barrel	1 75 2 00

MORUS MULTICAULIS.

JOSEPH DAVENPORT, of Colerain, Mass. offers for sale 16,000 trees of the Morus Multicaulis, or Chinese Mulberry, being a part of his trees cultivated at Colerain and at Suffield, Ct., 16 miles north of Hartford, one mile from the river. The trees are from 2 to 5 feet high. Price according to size, from 25 to 30 dollars per hundred. Were propagated from trees that endured the last severe winter unprotected. Purchasers will be furnished with a knowledge of its culture and suitable soil, which, if attended to will ensure it without protection against the severity of our climate. Trees will be carefully packed and forwarded by land or water to any part of the country. Orders received by mail will receive prompt attention. Colerain, Oct. 5, 1835

TEAZLE SEED.

Just received 50 lbs. prime Teazle Seed. The importance of this crop merits the attention of agriculturists.

Dec. 16. G. C. BARRETT.

MISCELLANY.

(From the Spirit of the Times.)

THE FADED ROSE-BUD.

As she turned the leaves of her book, they disclosed a faded and dried Rose. She started on seeing it, but in the next moment, with a tear in her eye, placed the sad relic of happier days in her bosom.

And, art thou so faded! yet come to my heart,
All robbed of thy sweetness, and dead as thou art.
More valued than ever, though pallid decay
Hath wasted thy freshness and odor away.

How withered! how colorless! was it for this
I treasured thee here in a moment of bliss?
Didst token such changes, when offer'd to be
His pledge of affection who gave thee to me?

'T is well thou art faded: for, oh! had thy hue
'Mid all that is faithless, been steadfast and true,
What anguish! what mockery were it, to see
The heart's dearest visions outlived, — and by thee.

'T is well thou art faded; now, close to my heart
I press thee, all withered and pale as thou art,
Like sympathy, too, shall thy presence allay
The sorrow that wasteth my spirit away.

Nov. 20, 1835. LINCOLN.

REASONING OF BRUTES — ANECDOTES OF CATS. —There has been much idle discussion on the question whether other animals besides man exercise reasoning powers, or are always guided by instinct. Although this is one of the many subjects on which 'much may be said on both sides,' it has always seemed to me clear that all animals (man included) possess and exercise both these powers, in greater or less proportion — the more perfect animals, as man, and the elephant, and the dog, having most reason and least instinct; and the lower orders, as insects, possessing the most admirable instinct, and the least of reason. Still man has some instinct, and the ant exhibits still more evidence of having some share of the reasoning faculty.

Domestic animals, by ages of servitude to, and companionship with man, have not only departed greatly, as to each family, from their original wild character, but many individuals seem to have learned more than others, and to exhibit feelings, as well as acquirements, different from all others of their kinds. Many well attested and interesting accounts have been published of such facts of elephants and of dogs, the animals which can best profit by man's teaching, and even seem to share his passions and feelings. I shall state a circumstance of another, and the least tamed and docile of all domestic animals, the cat, which exhibits every appearance of the possession of not only reasoning, but of feeling. The circumstances were witnessed by all the members of a highly respectable family in my neighborhood, by several of whom I have heard them stated — and in such manner as to leave no possible doubt of the correctness of the details which will be here repeated.

A female cat that was nursing her litter of kittens in the cellar of the mansion house, died when they were so young, that in most such cases it would have been deemed a more merciful plan to drown them, than to attempt to raise them. But as cats were then scarce about the house, and the rats and mice very numerous and destructive, orders were given to use every care to nurse and raise the young kittens. The cellar in which they were was generally open, being partly a kind of lumber room, and frequented continually by the servants in their different occupations.

Writers on natural history have treated the cat as devoid of all affection or kindly feelings for its owner, and indeed for every thing else but *self* — that caring for nothing but what conduced to its own comfort or pleasure, the cat was a complete exemplification of a being altogether selfish. Such is truly their almost universal character. In addition, we know that however tame cats become in the houses where they live, they still remain as wild animals at others, and in the presence of strangers — going abroad by stealth, and at night — and flying in alarm from the approach of every footstep. The cats raised in our negro-houses are very fearful of approaching the "great house," and rarely venture to do so except at night, and when attracted by the company of their own species.

At one of the negro houses, about a hundred yards distant from the mansion, another cat had kittens of about the same age of those left by the one that died. This one, as usual, had never been seen at the house, and probably had never ventured there except in their customary roaming at night. The next day after the death, this "quarter cat" was seen carrying off one of the orphan kittens, in her mouth. She was chased, the kitten taken from her and brought back. It was not long before she returned, and repeated the attempt, but with the same ill success as before. She had to pass through a considerable distance exposed to detection, and could not, without being seen, escape with her burdens. The report of these attempted abductions, and the singularity of the circumstances, caused the family to attend with curiosity to her proceedings, and left the poor animal the less chance of success. She continued, however, for several days, (the door of the cellar being always open) to carry away the kittens, without being able to escape, undetected, a single time. At last, a new and more interesting movement was seen. She was bringing one of her own kittens to the cellar — and being left undisturbed, she soon brought them all, and placed them with those which she was so anxious to nurse. There she took her place in spite of her fears, and nursed both litters as long as they needed it. Of course, she, and all her charge, had every aid of food, and care from the ladies of the family.

Another anecdote of a reasoning cat will be stated which was told me by an intimate and valued friend, whose habits of observation are remarkable for strictness and care, as are his statements of every kind for the most entire correctness. He had a cat raised in his house, and as tame as usual under those circumstances. But whenever about to produce her young, she would take refuge in some out-house, not inhabited. There she kept her kittens until they were old enough to begin to eat — and then with every litter her course was always to bring them one by one, (held according to their made of transporting them, by the skin of the back,) and lay them on the hearth rug in her mistress' chamber. For experiment, they were sometimes taken up and carried back, and more than once in the same instance. But she would patiently repeat her labor, and continue to bring them and lay them on the rug, until they were permitted to remain, and were fed and taken care of. This cat was a bad nurse, and generally lost some of her kittens, even with the aid thus obtained. No words could have been used to express more strongly than her conduct, the prayer to aid her in her maternal duties.—"*E. R.*" *in the Farmer's Register.*

Seeds for 1836.

FOR sale a the Seed Store connected with the N. E. Farmer Office

200	bushels	finest Early Peas;
200	"	Large Marrowfat do;
50	"	Dwarf Blue Imperial do.;
50	"	other varieties;
100	"	Best Garden Beans;
	"	Dwarf and Pole, Early and Late, do;
500	lbs.	superior Long Blood Beet Seed;
100	"	Early Turnip " " "
300	"	Cabbage Seed, 14 different kinds;
250	"	Fine Long Orange Carrot;
50	"	Early Horn, do;
200	"	Common Cucumber;
150	"	Long Green, do.;
100	"	Early and Head Lettuces;
50	"	Pure White Portugal Onion;
500	"	Silver Skin "
1000	"	Large Deep Red, "
200	"	Large Dutch Parsnip;
150	"	Early Scarlet Short Top Radish;
100	"	Long Salmon;
50	"	Turnip Radishes;
50	"	Spinach;
100	"	Early Scollop Squash;
100	"	" Long "
100	"	Long Winter, do;
25	"	Salsafy;
100	"	Early White Dutch Turnip;
500	"	English
200	"	Ruta Baga,
200	"	Mangel Wurtzel *for Cattle.*

Also—Cauliflower; Broccoli; Celery; Cress; Egg Plants Leek; Endive; Musk and Water Melons; Martynea; Pepper; Parsley and Tomato Seeds by the lb. or oz. *Herb Seeds*, of all kinds.

50,000 Papers in 200 to 300 splendid kinds of *Annual, Biennial* and *Perennial* FLOWER SEEDS.

GRASS SEEDS, *Wholesale & Retail.*

The above comprises in part the stock of seeds raised expressly for the establishment, and the quality and goodness will be *warranted* superior to any ever offered heretofore. Dealers and others will please file in their orders immediately, and they shall be faithfully executed for the spring.

Boxes of Garden Seeds for the country trade, neatly papered up, with directions on each paper, for sale at a large discount from Market prices.

FRUIT & ORNAMENTAL TREES, &c. will be supplied in the spring, and orders are solicited.

GEO. C. BARRETT, *Agricultural Warehouse.*

SEEDS.

H. L. HOFFMAN, Druggist, St. Louis, has for sale a large and very superior collection of Garden and Flower Seeds, put up at the New England Agricultural Warehouse. Dec. 30

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